

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, dated July 24, 2007, claims 1-14 are pending in the application, and currently stand rejected. Applicants' undersigned attorney wishes to thank Examiner Termanini for the opportunity, on September 19, 2007, to conduct a telephonic interview on the pending Application. The contents of the interview are further address in the remarks below.

Priority

In response to paragraph 5 on page 2 of the final office action dated July 24, 2007, applicants have amended the specification to include the claim for priority in this application. Accompanying this amendment, is a Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) and the fee therefor.

Applicants further are submitting a Statement Under 37 CFR § 3.73(b) and a Power of Attorney to perfect the power of attorney in this application.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C §102

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application and stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. (US 6,546,419). Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite:

A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure formatted according to extensible markup language (XML) including data representative of a canonical UI description of a device to be controlled for use by a universal console, *said universal console operable to receive at least one user preference for rendering said UI description,* wherein said UI description comprises:

- (1) action-commands to which said device responds, and
- (2) descriptors for *rendering a user interface* on said universal console, said descriptors providing *at least one* prompt for a user to select at least one of said action-commands, *wherein said at least one prompt is selected in accordance with said at least one user preference.*

(emphasis added). Support for the amendments can be found at least in the specification at paragraph 0030.

As the Applicant explained during the telephonic interview, Humpleman et al. is directed to obtaining information regarding capabilities of a first and second home device and sending control and command data from a client device to the first and second devices to cause the devices to communicate with each other to perform a service (see column 2 line 52 to column 3 line 9). While Humpleman et al. discloses the display of user interface data (see, for example, claim 36), the passages cited by the Examiner do not disclose a data structure comprising descriptors for rendering a user interface that provide at least one prompt selected in accordance with at least one user preference as now recited in the claim. The selection of a prompt in accordance with a user's preferences is useful for taking into account the user's needs or disabilities when rendering the canonical UI on the universal console. Because the user interface does not have to be a visible display (see application paragraph 0034), the user prompts can include, for example, tactile or speech-based user interfaces to enable users with disabilities to interact with the universal console. During the telephonic interview, the Examiner agreed that the proposed amendments appear to distinguish over the cited passages from Humpleman et al.

For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is allowable. The Applicants also respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-14, at least by virtue of their dependency from the allowable independent claim, is also allowable. A Notice of Allowance for claims 1-14 is respectfully requested.

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